

# BOOK REVIEWS

**MENIERE'S DISEASE**—A Symposium Reprinted from The Otolaryngologic Clinics of North America, October 1968—Edited by Jack L. Pulec, M.D., The Mayo Clinic and Mayo Foundation, Rochester, Minn. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa. (19105), 1968. 715 pages, \$15.00.

In anticipating the reading of *Meniere's Disease* edited by Jack L. Pulec, M.D. of the Mayo Clinic one should give consideration to the fact that this is a reprinting of the symposium of the experts nationally and internationally in otology and particularly otological surgery and that they, themselves, are wrestling with the difficult problem of separating it from the other myriad similar conditions, of classifying it and in short, trying to basically organize it along scientific lines. Perhaps one would get some idea of the slant of the book in noticing that the single chapter on the medical treatment of Meniere's disease written by Eugene L. Derlacki of Northwestern University totals some 12 pages of which seven are taken up with graphs and the presentation of five case histories. The obvious emphasis on surgical approaches to this disease should not be taken as indication that surgery is now the method of choice for treatment of this condition. For one who is looking for in-depth reporting in certain isolated areas of the basic sciences related to Meniere's disease and labyrinth function in general, this book can be an interesting acquisition.

BERNARD M. KRAMER, M.D.

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**CLINICAL ASPECTS OF OPERABLE HEART DISEASE**—Donald R. Kahn, M.D., Associate Professor of Surgery, University of Michigan Medical School; Ruth H. Strang, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Communicable Disease, University of Michigan Medical School and Director of Pediatrics, Wayne County General Hospital; and William S. Wilson, M.D., Professor of Medicine and Chief of Cardiology, Rutgers Medical School. Appleton-Century-Crofts, Division of Meredith Corporation, 440 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y. (10016), 1968. 363 pages, \$16.00.

This comprehensive review of what has become a large field attempts to encompass every aspect of cardiac surgery in its compact 360 pages. In reviewing extracorporeal circulation, diagnostic cardiology, differential diagnosis, surgical technique, histopathology, pathophysiology and management, the authors have necessarily provided a series of condensations in which several important omissions are evident to the reviewer. The lack of concentration on any of these important aspects makes it difficult to ascertain the intended purpose of the book. As a review for medical students it is too extensive; as a reference it is incomplete; and as a guide for aspiring cardiac surgeons it is too superficial. The language of its text varies from the sophisticated jargon of the cardiac surgeon to elementary description suitable for lay readers.

Abundant illustrations include some excellent photographs and diagrams, but the drawings of surgical techniques are poor and inaccurate (one shows an aortic valve prosthesis implanted upside down).

In light of the importance of clinical experience in this rapidly advancing field, the book is conspicuous in its ab-

sence of at least contributing authorship by the renowned senior cardiac surgeon whose teaching it reflects.

BENSON B. ROE, M.D.

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**THE APOLOGIE AND TREATISE OF AMBROISE PARÉ**—Containing the Voyages Made Into Divers Places—Edited and with an introduction by Geoffrey Keynes, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G. Dover Publications, 180 Varick Street, New York, N.Y. (10014), 1968. 227 pages, \$2.50.

From the time of Alessandro Benedetti in the fifteenth century to Harvey Cushing in the twentieth, surgeons following in the trains of armies have given us in their journals vivid impressions from the field. One of the most important and fascinating of these journals is that of the great French surgeon Ambroise Paré. Paré saw and commented upon some of the most significant events in the history of France during the sixteenth century in his *Apologie and Treatise*, here reproduced from the edition edited by Geoffrey Keynes in 1952, and to which is added a selection of the surgical writings of the father of modern surgery.

The version reproduced both of the *Apologie* and of the selected writings is from Thomas Johnson's translation of Paré's *Workes*, issued in 1634. Unfortunately this translation, although nearly contemporary, is not very good, containing many omissions, transpositions, and other distortions due in part to having been made from a poor Latin translation of the French original. Readers should be warned that dates are misquoted, technical terms frequently misunderstood, and the sense often rendered imperfectly. Nonetheless, the rendering possesses much of the color and flavor of the times. However, there are other more accurate versions, especially of Paré's journals, such as those of Steven Paget and Francis Packard. With this caveat, this inexpensive reproduction will be a welcome addition to the young surgeon's library and will delight him.

J. B. DEC. M. SAUNDERS, M.D.

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**DIAGNOSIS OF SURGICAL DISEASE**—Volumes I, II, and III—Richard T. Shackelford, M.D., Associate Professor of Surgery, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. W. B. Saunders Company, West Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa. (19105), 1968. 2131 pages, total in volumes I, II, and III; \$72.50.

*Diagnosis of Surgical Disease* is a three-volume work, edited and written by Richard Shackelford with the assistance of 23 contributors. It provides an extraordinarily comprehensive and detailed account of every phase of surgical diagnosis, including Cytopathology, Radioisotope Scanning, Skin Disorders of Surgical Interest, Special Fungus Infections, and chapters on all of the surgical specialties. Beautifully produced, and in general well written, it is a splendid contribution to the field of surgical diagnosis.

Volume I contains "The History: Significant Symptoms," "The Physical Examination," "Cytopathology . . .,"